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Date: May 1, 2007  
Time: 9:38 am  
Total number of pages incl. cover page: 12

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**MESSAGE:**

**U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/597,810; Our Ref. No.: 88522.0051**

Please note that the Assignment for Published Patent Application section "SEIKO CORPORATION, TOKYO, JAPAN" should read as follows: "**SEIKO EPSON CORPORATION, TOKYO, JAPAN**" as it appears on the Declaration and Power of Attorney for Patent Application (copy enclosed) and provide us with the Corrected Filing Receipt at your earliest convenience.

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WLA - 088522/00051 - 346625 v1



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EPSON

MAY 01 2007

APPL NO.	FILING OR 371(c) DATE	ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY,DOCKET NO	TOT CLMS	IND CLMS
10/597,810	08/08/2006	2852	4750	88522.0051	49	15

CONFIRMATION NO. 6629

26021  
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.  
1999 AVENUE OF THE STARS  
SUITE 1400  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90067

## FILING RECEIPT



\*OC000000023090824\*

Date Mailed: 03/26/2007

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please mail to the Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria Va 22313-1450. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

## Applicant(s)

Hiidenori Kin, Nagano-ken, JAPAN;  
Toshiki Shiroki, Nagano-ken, JAPAN;  
Isao Inaba, Nagano-ken, JAPAN;

## Assignment For Published Patent Application

SEIKO CORPORATION, TOKYO, JAPAN

EPSON

Power of Attorney: The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 26021.

## Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a 371 of PCT/JP05/17846 09/28/2005

## Foreign Applications

JAPAN 2004-287299 09/30/2004  
JAPAN 2004-287300 09/30/2004  
JAPAN 2004-263543 09/12/2005; 2005-263543  
JAPAN 2005-263544 09/12/2005  
JAPAN 2005-263545 09/12/2005

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 03/23/2007

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US10/597,810**

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MAR 28 2007  
Docketing

**Projected Publication Date:** 07/05/2007

**Non-Publication Request:** No

**Early Publication Request:** No

**Title**

Image forming apparatus, toner counter and method of calculating toner consumption amount

**Preliminary Class**

399

### **PROTECTING YOUR INVENTION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES**

Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process simplifies the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but does not result in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

Almost every country has its own patent law, and a person desiring a patent in a particular country must make an application for patent in that country in accordance with its particular laws. Since the laws of many countries differ in various respects from the patent law of the United States, applicants are advised to seek guidance from specific foreign countries to ensure that patent rights are not lost prematurely.

Applicants also are advised that in the case of inventions made in the United States, the Director of the USPTO must issue a license before applicants can apply for a patent in a foreign country. The filing of a U.S. patent application serves as a request for a foreign filing license. The application's filing receipt contains further information and guidance as to the status of applicant's license for foreign filing.

Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html>.

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**Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15**

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**MAY 01 2007**

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO.	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO.	
10/597,810	Hidenori Kin	88522.0051	
		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.	
		PCT/JP05/17846	
		I.A. FILING DATE	PRIORITY DATE
		09/28/2005	09/30/2004
<b>CONFIRMATION NO. 6629</b>			
<b>371 ACCEPTANCE LETTER</b>			
 *OC000000023090825*			

Date Mailed: 03/26/2007

**NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C 371 AND 37 CFR 1.495**

The applicant is hereby advised that the United States Patent and Trademark Office in its capacity as a Designated / Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495), has determined that the above identified international application has met the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371, and is ACCEPTED for national patentability examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

The United States Application Number assigned to the application is shown above and the relevant dates are:

<u>08/08/2006</u>	<u>08/08/2006</u>
DATE OF RECEIPT OF 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS	DATE OF COMPLETION OF ALL 35 U.S.C. 371 REQUIREMENTS

A Filing Receipt (PTO-103X) will be issued for the present application in due course. **THE DATE APPEARING ON THE FILING RECEIPT AS THE "FILING DATE" IS THE DATE ON WHICH THE LAST OF THE 35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE. THIS DATE IS SHOWN ABOVE. The filing date of the above identified application is the international filing date of the international application (Article 11(3) and 35 U.S.C. 363). Once the Filing Receipt has been received, send all correspondence to the Group Art Unit designated thereon.**

The following items have been received:

- Copy of the International Application filed on 08/08/2006
- English Translation of the IA filed on 08/08/2006
- Copy of the International Search Report filed on 08/08/2006
- Information Disclosure Statements filed on 08/08/2006
- Oath or Declaration filed on 08/08/2006
- Request for Immediate Examination filed on 08/08/2006
- U.S. Basic National Fees filed on 08/08/2006
- Assignment filed on 08/08/2006
- Specification filed on 08/08/2006
- Claims filed on 08/08/2006
- Abstracts filed on 08/08/2006

- Drawings filed on 08/08/2006

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Applicant is reminded that any communications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above (37 CFR 1.5)

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DARRELL C COTTMAN  
Telephone: (703) 308-9140 EXT 203

PART 1 - ATTORNEY/APPLICANT COPY

FORM PCT/DO/EO/903 (371 Acceptance Notice)

PTD/SB/106 (4-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/02. OMB 0651-0032  
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## Declaration and Power of Attorney for Patent Application

特許出願宣言者及び委任状

Japanese Language Declaration

日本語宣言書

私は、以下に記名された発明者として、ここに下記の通り宣言する：

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

私の住所、郵便の宛先をして国籍は、私の氏名の後に記載された通りである。

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated next to my name.

下記の名前の発明について、特許請求範囲に記載され、且つ特許が求められている発明主因に因して、私は、最初、最先且つ唯一の発明者である（唯一の氏名が記載されている場合）か、或いは最初、最先且つ共同発明者である（複数の氏名が記載されている場合）と信じてゐる。

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought as the invention enabled.

画像形成装置、トナーカウンタおよびIMAGE FORMING APPARATUS, TONER COUNTER ANDトナー消費量算出方法METHOD OF CALCULATING TONER CONSUMPTION AMOUNT

上記発明の明細書はここに添付されているが、下記の箇がチェックされている場合は、この限りでない：

the specification of which is attached hereto unless the following box is checked:

因 2005年9月28日 の日に出願され。  
この出願の米国出願番号またはPCT国際出願番号は。  
PCT/JP2005/017846 であり、且つ  
の日に補正された出願（該当する場合）I was filed on September 28, 2005  
as United States Application Number or  
PCT International Application Number  
PCT/JP2005/017846 and was amended on  
(if applicable).

私は、上記の補正書によって補正された、特許請求範囲を含む上記明細書を検討し、且つ内容を理解していることをここに表明する。

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of  
the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended  
by any amendment referred to above.

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I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to  
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PTO/SB/106 (5-00)

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I hereby claim foreign priority under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(p)-(d) or 365(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(e) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application for which priority is claimed.

## Prior Foreign Application(s)

外国での先行出願

2005-263545

(Number)  
(番号)

JAPAN

(Country)  
(国名)Priority Not Claimed  
優先権主張なし

12/September/2005

(Day/Month/Year Filed)  
(出願日／月／年)(Day/Month/Year Filed)  
(出願日／月／年)

私は、ここに、下記のいかなる米国仮特許出願についても、その米国法典第36編第119条(c)項の利益を主張する。

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

(Application No.)  
(出願番号)(Filing Date)  
(出願日)(Application No.)  
(出願番号)(Filing Date)  
(出願日)

私は、ここに、下記のいかなる米国出願についても、その米国法典第35編第120条に基づく利益を主張し、又米国を指定するいかなるPCT国際出願についても、その米国法典第365条(d)に基づく利益を主張する。また、本出願の各特許請求の範囲の主張が、米国法典第35編第112条第1款に規定された結果で、先行する米国出願又はPCT国際出願に表示されていない場合においては、その先行出願のPCT国際出願日またはPCT国際出願日との間の期間中に入手された情報で、速歩細則法典第37編規則1, 5, 6に定められた特許性に因る重要な情報について表示を認めることがあります。

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(Application No.)  
(出願番号)(Filing Date)  
(出願日)(Status: Patented, Pending, Abandoned)  
(現況: 特許許可、係査中、放棄)(Application No.)  
(出願番号)(Filing Date)  
(出願日)(Status: Patented, Pending, Abandoned)  
(現況: 特許許可、係査中、放棄)

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like are made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

PTO/SB/106 (5-00)

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且つ米国特許商標庁と全ての業務を遂行するために、  
記名された発明者として、カスタマーナンバー:[26021]に  
付随した弁護士及び/または弁理士を任命する。

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby  
appoint the attorney(s) and/ or patent agent(s)  
associated with the Customer Number: [26021] to  
prosecute this application and transact all business in  
the Patent and Trademark Office.

書類送付先

Send Correspondence to:

26021

直通電話番号：(氏名及び電話番号)

Direct Telephone Calls to: (name and telephone number)

第一または第一発明者氏名 金 英志	日付 2006年7月7日	Full name of sole or first inventor. Hidenori KIN	Date July 7, 2006
発明者の署名 金 英志		Inventor's signature Hidenori KIN	Date July 7, 2006
住所 日本国、長野県		Residence Nagano-ken, Japan	Date H.K. July 2006
国籍 日本		Citizenship JAPAN	
郵便の宛先 392-8502 日本国長野県諏訪市大和3丁目3番5号 セイコーエプソン株式会社内		Post Office Address c/o Seiko Epson Corporation 3-5, Owa 3-chome, Suwa-shi, Nagano-ken 392-8502 Japan	
第二共同発明者がいる場合、その氏名 白木 俊樹	日付 2006年7月10日	Full name of second joint inventor, if any. Toshiki SHIROKI	Date July 10, 2006
第二共同発明者の署名 白木 俊樹		Second inventor's signature Toshiki SHIROKI	Date July 10, 2006
住所 日本国、長野県		Residence Nagano-ken, Japan	
国籍 日本		Citizenship JAPAN	
郵便の宛先 392-8502 日本国長野県諏訪市大和3丁目3番5号 セイコーエプソン株式会社内		Post Office Address c/o Seiko Epson Corporation 3-5, Owa 3-chome, Suwa-shi, Nagano-ken 392-8502 Japan	

(第三以下の共同発明者についても責任に記載し、署名を  
すること)

(Supply similar information and signature for third and subsequent  
joint inventors.)

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委任状：私は本出願を審査する手続きを行い、且つ米国特許商標庁と全ての業務を遂行するために、記名された発明者として、カスタマーナンバー:[26021]に付随した弁護士及び/または弁理士を任命する。

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the attorney(s) and/or patent agent(s) associated with the Customer Number: [26021] to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office.

宣誓書

Send Correspondence to:

26021

直接電話番号：(氏名及び電話番号)

Direct Telephone Calls to: (name and telephone number)

第三共同発明者氏名 稲葉 功	Full name of third joint inventor Isao INABA
第三共同発明者署名 稻葉 功	Third inventor's signature Isao INABA
住所 日本国、長野県	Residence Nagano-ken, Japan
国籍 日本	Citizenship JAPAN
郵便の宛先 392-8502 日本国長野県諏訪市大和3丁目3番5号 セイコーエプソン株式会社内	Post Office Address c/o Seiko Epson Corporation 3-5, Owa 3-chome, Suwa-shi, Nagano-ken 392-8502 Japan
第四共同発明者氏名	Full name of fourth joint inventor
第四共同発明者署名	Fourth inventor's signature
住所	Residence
国籍	Citizenship
郵便の宛先	Post Office Address
(第五以下の共同発明者についても同様に記載し、署名をすること)	
(Supply similar information and signature for fifth and subsequent joint inventors.)	